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PATENT

<u>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

Appl. No.

10/017,852

Confirmation No.:

9597

Applicant

Norris et al.

Filed

12/12/01

TC/A.U.

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Examiner

Thai D. Hoang

Docket No.

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Commissioner for Patents Mail Stop AF P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER § 1.116

SIR:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on August 23, 2005, with the three month shortened statutory period for response under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) set to expire on November 23, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows. This response is timely filed within two-months of the mailing date of the Final Office Action on Monday, October 24, 2005. Therefore, any extension fees pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136 (a) should be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.